

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Executive Registry

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

77 8975/2

Deputy for National Intelligence

13 September 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: The President

VIA : The Honorable Zbigniew Brzezinski
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

FROM : Deputy N/I to Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : "The Next Two Years: Brezhnev, or a Succession?
Implications for US Policy"

1. Some time back Bill Hyland requested a careful intelligence look at these questions:

-- How do we estimate Brezhnev's current personal and political health? What are the chances of his leaving power in the next year or two?

-- If Brezhnev leaves power within the next year or two, how long and orderly or otherwise is the early succession period likely to be?

-- What are the short-term policy implications of the succession for the US?

-- What succession scenarios are likely? Possible? With what varying policy implications for the US?

2. State/INR, CIA and NSA have worked out some answers in the attached memorandum.

15/
Robert R. Bowie

Attachment

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

Executive Registry
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National Intelligence Officers

7 September 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : Robert R. Bowie
Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence

SUBJECT : Your Forwarding the Intelligence Memorandum,
"The Next Two Years: Brezhnev, or a Succession?
Implications for US Policy"

Action Requested: If it meets with your approval, please sign the revised Brezhnev succession memorandum to the President via Brzezinski. The paper will not be back from printing until next Monday, but if you want to sign the covering note before you leave town on Saturday, we can send it along the first of the week.

Robert R. Bowie

Attachment

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